THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST

A Monthly Journal
Devoted to
Philately

VOL. 1. OCTOBER NO. 7

U.S. Postal Reform

FROM Washington comes the information that before another fiscal year, the Federal postal establishment will become self sustaining; this will be accomplished without curtailing the service or lessening its efficiency.

Such is the statement made by Postmaster General Hitchcock. Heretofore Mr. Hitchcock has indicated his belief that it may be possible within a year or two, through the operation of plans he had worked out, to place the postal system on a paying basis. By an effective re-organization of the postal department, including the introduction of labor-saving device, it has been possible, says Mr. Hitchcock, to reduce considerably the number of employees and at the same time obtain increased efficiency in the handling of a larger volume of business. Similar methods of reorganization now are being applied to the entire postal service.

With the postal service able to pay its own way, Mr. Hitchcock is convinced that "penny postage" for first-class letters is not the "iridescent dream" it has been declared. Indeed, he is almost prepared to assert that one cent postage now is in sight as a practical business proposition.

WASHINGTON is about to issue postal savings bank cards, the design for which has already been approved of. One card filled with nine other ten cent postal savings stamps may be used to open an account in any postal savings bank.

THE Stamp Journal says that the designs for the new British stamps have not yet been decided upon although a number were submitted to the postal authorities some months back. On August 5th. His Majesty gave a special sitting to Mr. Bertram McKennal, A.R.A., who has been instructed with the designing of the new coinage, but it is not definitely known as yet if Mr. McKennal's design will be utilized for our postage stamps as was the case with Herr Fuchs, who designed both the stamps and coinage of the last reign.

CYRUS J. McBean, 453 Mountain Ave., Winnipeg, Man., successor to Wallace & McBain, stamp dealers, has purchased the business of the Unique Stamp Co., of that city.

AN old exchange correspondent who has dropped out of sight since last winter, but has been married in the meantime writes in reply to a query: "No marriage did not lessen my ardour for stamp collecting; as long as I live I hope to be a collector. My wife, although not such a keen philatelist as myself takes interest in my album, and at one time used to collect herself."

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The Philatelic West, Superior, Neb.

DON'T TAKE O'R WORD FOR IT that the Southern Philatelist is the best stamp magazine published in the south to-day. Redfield's says: "It is really the most promising philatelic sheet that has appeared in Dixie for some time." We have many others like this, and you will say the same thing if you subscribe. Gaboon 1910, two nice sets and fine packet stamps, Greece, Servia, Bulgaria, China, Peru, Newfoundland, etc., free to each new subscriber. Sub. price only 15c (foreign 35c.) Leon Carter Grosjean, 1227 Oakland St., Shreveport, La

I shall endeavor to do all in my power to assist this most worthy project. The Canadian Philatelist. I am, Sincerely yours, R. F. Wrigley, Vancouver, B. C.

Western Collectors,-No. 6.

William Trant.

THE subject of our sketch this month, Mr. William Trant, Regina's city magistrate, started to collect stamps between 1850 and 1860 and unless a predecessor can be found he claims to be the first "philatelist" though the word had not been invented until long after he had collected and exhibited. His story is very simple. When quite a lad a relative in France sent a letter to his home and with the curiosity of childhood he begged the stamp. He seemed to treasure the little gift so much that his father ransacked old files and game him a batch of stamps, including one of the old penny black. A short time afterward a triangular red and similar blue stamp from Cape of Good Hope came into his possession and this seems to have whetted his appetite with a keen relish. He introduced himself to the leading merchants of Leeds, especially with those doing business in foreign countries. Indeed, he became an ardent collector. As there were no albums in those days, he pasted his specimens on a large sheet o' cardboard. A local magnate, Mr. Baker, of Horsforth Hall, happened to see the results of the young fellow's hobby and as he was giving a conversazione in the park, he borrowed the stamps for exhibition.

The collection attracted considerable attention and young Trant and his stamps were much talked about. A friend of the young philatelist, Mr. Thomas Dalton, solicitor of Leeds, who is still a collector, also began to form a collection (still in 1860) and seemed so earnest about the business that Trant handed him over his collection holus bolus, believing as he said, that one good collection was better than two smaller ones. From this time (not yet 1860) Trant ceased to be an individual collector but as one who has occasional opportunities of receiving stamps from different parts of the world, and he utilizes them in strengthening the weak parts of the collections of those that more systematically collect.

At the present time Mr. Trant, has just received a magnificent parcel of old English stamps, submitted to him by a lawyer in England. Amongst the gems of this collection are 108 Mulready penny covers, and over one thousand "ship letters" bearing the early markings in use before the day of stamps or Mulready's ; several thousand black and red penny's

(Continued on page 87)

WILLIAM TRANT

The Canadian Philatelist

Vol. 1. Rouleau, Sask., October 15, 1910 No. 7

EARLY CANADIAN STAMPS.

(Continued from August issue.)

Owing to the change in the currency we find that in 1859 it became necessary to prepare for issue a new set of stamps. The contract was given to the American Bank Note Company and they took over the dies, plates and other paraphernalia from Messrs. Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson.

On refering to Mr. Donald King's article in the Monthly Journal, I find he quoted the following extract from the Postmaster General's report:

"Decimal stamps of value of 1, 5 and 10 cents for ordinary correspondence, and of 12½ cents for Canadian and 17c. for British Packet Post Rates, were obtained in readiness for the commencement of the Decimal Postage Law in July, 1859, and have from that date been issued in lieu of stamps previously in use."

Like the "pence" issues the "cents" stamps were printed in sheets of one hundred, 10 rows of 10, while according to Mr. King, the 1, 2, 5 and 12½ cents had eight imprints on each sheet, while the 17 cents had no imprint.

On examining the "cents" stamps closely it is clear that all values (with the exception of the 2c stamp, which was not issued until August, 1864,) are very similar in design to those of the pence issue, and that the original die in each case was taken as a model. In all probability a secondary die was made for each value, the alterations necessitated by the change in the monetary system, being made on these intermediate dies, while the steel remained soft; this accomplished, the die would be hardened and a fresh plate for each value constructed.

In several of the stamps, notably the 17c value, it is clearly evident that the original die was used as a foundation because we find several peculiarities that are common both to the 10d. and the 17c. stamps, notably a small line between the "o" and the "s" of the word Postage.

Some, if not all the other values, how marked differences (besides those necessitated by the alteration in the wording) especially the 1c stamp, which has a heavy band of shading in the lower half of the oval, doubtless added with the idea of accentuating the portrait

The 10c value also differs from the 6d in the background, as we find that in the later stamp there are faint diagonal lines of shading which do not show, even in the earliest impressions of the 6d.

The 5c stamp has the outer frame line at the top of the stamp redrawn; in the 3d. stamp this line nearly always appears very faintly printed, due either to the fact that the die was not properly rolled or that the line itself was not properly cut, whereas in the 5c. label there is no doubt that this line has been strengthened or redrawn.

The "cents" issue is very prolific where "guide lines" or "guide dots" are concerned; especially are they found on the 12½c. stamp where a very marked "guide dot" can be found to the right of the letters "C" and "A" in the word Canada.

In a block of four imperforate stamps loaned by Mr. W. H. Peckitt, these dots can be seen, not only on stamps themselves, but on the margin as well.

As this article is partly composed of extracts from the works of others, and I hope better informed writers than myself, it would not, I think, come amiss were I to quote here what Mr. Dunbar Heath of Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co., says concerning 'guide dots" in general. He says, (Monthly Report of the Herts Philatelic Society, May, 1910):

"The stamps must for purposes of correct perforation be laid down at equal distances apart, some transferers use faint lines for making the spaces on the blank plates, others dots. Stamp manufacturers sometimes find it advisable to wear large sleeves—they find them useful for laughing into.

"We would not for worlds appear disrespectful to our good friends the philatelists, but when we see serious arguments on the appearance of an unfortunate dot between certain stamps which does not appear between others, and it is sought by the appearance of a dot or a line to tell whether a stamp was engraved by the American Bank Note Company or ourselves—well, we look the other way, and my good friend, Mrr Fisher, looks down and blushes to find his misdeeds famous."

"For in truth, all such birthmarks, as I may call them, are simply evidence of haste, or pressure of work. In every case the rubbing down or cutting away of the displaced metal, and of the space marks, dots, or lines, or whatever they may be, is a more tedious job than the mere rolling in the stamps, and is what may be called 'donkey work,' performed by some junior or mechanic. Theoretically, every mark or trace of a mark between the stamps that might print should be removed before the plete is hardened; but what

wonder is it that in the hurry of business "that'll do" is responsible for many dots or dashes being left in that should be absent, though we pride ourselves on always giving great attention to the clearing of the margins.

"This is the plain explanation of all manner of variations and defects, both with stamps themselves and in the margins, namely, simple press of business and urgency preventing sufficient time being given to a tedious and annoying operation. But I believe philatelists would readily forgive our operators even if they erred on the side of more variations and dots; but this is not the view of the manufacturer, who aims at a plate without blemish, every 'T' crossed in the same way, every I with the same sized dot, and not a mark to be discovered by the most powerful microscope between each stamp."

After this extract it would not do to harp on the importance of these guide lines, they are interesting, but have little philatelic value.

Mr. King tells us that of the cents stamps there were issued to the various postmasters :

24,166,550 of the 1 cent.
35,139,072 of the 5 cent.
4,952,598 of the 10 cent.
2,790,882 of the 12½ cent.
516,026 of the 17 cent.

As there would be a remainder of each value unsold, when the Dominion of Canada set was placed on sale, it is impossible to give the exact number of each value sold to the public.

In August, 1864, the 2 cent stamps were issued, and it will be seen that the die of the 1c. was used, as were the pence dies for the other cents stamps, as a model for the new denomination.

The paper on which all these six values were printed varies slightly in texture, but the only really distinct variety in that which shows a faint ribbing. I am not a great believer in ribbed paper, so am quite content that Gibbons catalogue should list but two varieties, namely, the 1c. and the 5c. values, although I believe that the other four values also exist in this condition.

All six values (only five are catalogued) exist in an imperforate condition, of these certainly the 1c. and 5c. values are known on original covers. Whether the remaining four ever franked letters through the post I do not know. At any rate there is always the danger that these imperforate stamps may be merely from sheets that left the printer's hands as waste.

(To be Continued.)

The remainders of the Queen's Head stamps of British Honduras which were offered for sale by tender by the Crown Agents in November last have, according to the Colonial Journal, recently been destroyed.

The Canadian Philatelist

A Monthly Publication
Devoted to Philately.

Subscription Price 25c. per year.

Edited by Stephen Golder.

Andrew King, Publisher, Rouleau, Sask.

ADVERTISING RATES:
One Page, 12 in., $5.00. Half Page, 6 in., $2.50. Quarter Page, 3 in., $1.25. One in., 50c. Liberal discount on time contracts. Send copy to Business Office, Box B, Rouleau, Sask. Forms close on 10th of each month.

Exchanges are requested to send one copy to S. Golder, 1761 Scarth St., Regina, Sask., and one to Andrew King, Rouleau, Sask. Similar exchange will be given.

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The Philatelist Magazine agency, Thief River Falls, Minn.
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The Berne Exhibition

THE Philatelic Journal of Great Britain in its editorial points out the lessons to be learned from the recent big exhibition held in the city of the Universal Postal Union. The paper says "From personal experience we have little hesitation in saying that the recently held Berne Exhibition was a thorough success. The attendance was far in advance of that expected by the Committee of organization while the exhibits were the best that nearly a dozen different European countries could produce. The site and the internal arrangements of the exhibition hall were all that could be desired, while all the exhibitors of highly specialized collections won medals, as did also many of the owners of collections that were of lesser merit, with the result that practically every collector who paid for the privilege of showing his stamps received a quid pro quo.

"The dealers who had stalls, and the more numerous ones who had not, all seemed pleased with the results of their efforts, while last, but not least, even the poor harmless, but sometimes extremely necessary collector who bought from the dealers seemed pleased with his purchases.

"The committee worked hard to secure such a deserved success — none harder, we should say, than Mr. Furi the courteous secretary, who helped to make smooth the paths of the numerous visitors—but it would be unfair to single out any one gentleman for individual praise—they all worked manfully and well, with the result that Berne, we think holds the honour of having held the most successful show of stamps up to the present time.

"The Exhibition will undoubtedly do a great amount of good; it attracted dealers and collectors from nearly every corner of Europe—at least twenty braved the autumn terrors of the English Channels—while France, Italy and Germany were also represented

(Continued on page 83)

Our Special Xmas. Number

OUR December number will take the form of a special Christmas number, and we will materially enlarge the Canadian Philatelist for that issue.

Special features are being arranged for this number, including a Xmas. story by Miss Bertha C. Foster, whose reputation as a talented authoress extends not only in Canada, but in Great Britain as well. Her writings in past numbers of the Canadian Philatelist have brought forth many flattering notices.

The typograhical appearance of the December number will be up to the usual standard, which we may modestly state is equal to any stamp journal on the continent.

A large number of sample copies will be mailed in addition to the regular list, and it is not too early for stamp dealers to arrange for space.

Our regular rates will prevail.

THE Philatelic Journal of Great Britain says : "We have received the April, June, and July numbers of a new paper, published in Canada, devoted entirely to stamps. It is called The Canadian Philatelist. Each number contains a illustrated interview with a well known Canadian collector, a brightly written philatelic short story, many pages devoted to readable items of stamp news. We welcome our new contemporarys. Its Editor, Mr. S. Golder, of Regina, does not seem imbued with the idea of using the columns of his paper to stir up all the philatelic mud of the North American Continent. He is a keen philatelist and gives his readers the benefit of mature years. May his paper come to be bound into many thick volumes.

In the July number a correspondent writes as follows.—'Looking over a collection recently of rare old British North American stamps, the writer was shown a perfect used specimen of the rare Connell stamp. Pasted under the stamp was an affidavit made before a commisioner by the person that received it through the post, stating it was received by him in the ordinary course through the mail. The owner of this rarity says he has seen a complete sheet of this stamp unused and knows the owner.'

If the above news is authentic specialists in Canadian stamps will be on the look out for yet other discoveries."

BALMORAL CASTLE.

The Private Secretary is commanded by the King to thank the Editor of the "Canadian Philatelist" for his letter of the 18th August, and for the copy of his Journal which he has been good enough to forward for His Majesty's acceptance.

2nd September, 1910.

Fac-Simile of Letter received By Mr. Stephen Golder.

About Ourselves.

LETTER FROM KING GEORGE V.

"Stephen Golder, editor of the Canadian Philatelist, Regina, is proud of a letter received by him from His Majesty King George V, thanking him for a copy of his publication. Perhaps it is not generally known that King George is one of the foremost stamp collectors in the world."—Winnipeg Free Press Sept. 21st.

THE STAMP JOURNAL SAYS:

"The Canadian Philatelist is the best monthly hailing from across the border we have seen since the demise of the Montreal Philatelist. As a frontispiece (September) it presents a full page cut of Rodophe Lemieux, postmaster general of Canada. It is edited by Stephen Golder and published by Andrew King, at Rouleau, Sask. Canada. Both are newspaper men and highly esteemed. By all means subscribe to this, the best monthly in Canada."

F. PERCY COLLINGWOOD, PUBLISHER OF THE ATTLEBORO PHILATELIST, SAYS:

"Wish to compliment you on the paper you are publishing which should have the support of every philatelist in Canada at least."

ADVERTISING IN THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST PAYS.

Vernon P. Pierce & Co., of Manchester, Mich., says: "The Canadian Philatelist is paying us well as a medium."

A FEMININE PHILATELIST.

"Though there are many ladies who collect stamps, they do so, as a rule so unobtrusively that their connection with the hobby is little known. It is a pleasure to note in the most recent number of the Canadian Philatelist (the promising new monthly published at Rouleau, Saskatchewan) the portrait of a lady who is pronounced in the sketch which accompanies it as Regina's premier philatelist. The lady in question, Mrs. Lily McIlree, is stated to have the best stamp collection between Winnipeg and the coast; and a survey of some of her possessions, as given in our contemporary's "write-up", would seem to show she assuredly has a very fine collection."—Redfield's Stamp Weekly. Sept. 10, 1910.

TOWN TOPICS, OF REGINA, SASK., SAYS:

"The August number of the Canadian Philatelist, is well up the high standard it has set for itself since its inception."

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To anyone sending us TWO NEW subscriptions to The Canadian Philatelist at 25c each, we will give as a premium a set of Canada King's head stamps, comprising 5c, 7c, 10c, 20c and 50c. This offer is good for a limited time only.

ERRATA—On Page 84 in this issue the article on Stamp Collecting comes to an abrupt ending. It was intended that two pages should be printed but owing to an error in the make-up the second page was omitted. The continuation will appear in the next issue.

(Continued from page 78)

by double figures.

"The differences between the English and Continental schools of collecting were once more brought into prominence, while a very big percentage of the principal awards came to England. Such highly specialized collections as those shown by several English collectors seem to be unknown on the continent while we again noticed the fondness of foreigners for stamps on entries. Dozens of the important exhibits were attractively embellished with the aid of many of the early stamps on original covers.—especially in the case of Sicilly, that most popular country, where the cult of the original cover has taken very deep root. All the collections of these stamps contained pairs and strips of used stamps, many on the originals, a state of things which did not cause us to wonder why these desirable stamps are scarce in England.

"Our impressions of the Berne Exhibitions are too numerous to be placed on record here—probably they would interest but few readers—but we clearly see that England, although far ahead in many respects has many lessons to learn from the Continental collector —not the least of these being correctly to value old European stamps in superb condition."

The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain in referring to the new issue of Newfoundland says "We have received a set of the new stamps issued to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the earliest settlement in the British Empire. These stamps, if such a term can be applied to such rubbish, are pitiful productions. The 15c. value is the first stamp to bear a portrait of King George the V."

MESSRS Whitfield King & Co., state that their Vienna correspondent writes that on the 18th, ult., before the head post office was opened, the street was blocked with a crowd of about 10,000 people waiting to buy the stamps. Two hours after the Post Office was opened the entire stock was sold out, and no more can to be issued ; on the same day the stamps were selling among dealers in Vienna at 50 per cent. over face value. (Regina seems to have been favored for several copies have received here in the ordinary course through the mail.)

THE Attleboro Philatelist, a bright monthly ably conducted by F. Percy Collingwood, has been sold to the Stamp Journal Publishing Company, and it will be combined with the Stamp Journal in future. This is the third purchase by Mr. DeKay, the sole proprietor of the Stamp Journal Publishing Co.

An Appreciation of Stamp Collecting as a Hobby

Gathered from Many Sources and Edited by Errington and Martin.

(Continued from September issue)

The course of the Spanish-American war is illustrated by the colonial issues of Spain for her ancient colonies of Cuba, Porto Rico, and Phillippine Island, changing to the provisional stamps of the American armies of occupation, and the current picturesque issue for Cuba under American protection.

In the postage stamps of the late African Republic and Orange Free State, also in those of Rhodesia, Bechuanaland, Zululand, and the famous siege issues of Mafeking, much of our own history may be read.

Stamps exhibit much variation in design and execution, showing in many instances the style of art in the country of issue.

All civilized countries use postage stamps, and the collector becomes familiar with the location of each place, its principal cities, its climate, area, and many other points. On the stamps of Egypt we find the ancient pyramids. The British Protectorate issues for the Soudan shows us an armed postman perched on top of a camel, with the mails for Berber and Khartoum. The Chinese send us fiery dragons and hieroglyphics; Salvador shows us its smoking volcanoes; dyaks, oil-palms and crocodiles enliven the stamps of British North Borneo; the emu, lyre-bird, and kangaroo appear on those of New South Wales; the cod-fish, seal, and dog on those of Newfoundland, etc, etc.,

The United States issue of 1893 gives us a whole series of historical picturies relating to the life and discoveries of Christopher Columbus. Another very interesting issue is the "Sidney Views" of New South Wales, the design being a copy of the Colonial Seal, and the scene represented is the landing of convicts at Botany Bay, received by industry, who, surrounded by her attributes, a bale of merchandise, a bee-hive, a pick-axe, and a shovel, releases them from their fetters, and points to oxen ploughing and to a town rising on the the summit of a hill.

Of the many "birds with painted plumage gay" pictured on stamps, the Quetzel is among the most interesting. It has a green tufted head, and and a tail four or five feet long. It never comes voluntarily to cities but secludes itself in forests, and tradition assets that if caught alive it commits suicide

BULGARIA

BY SIDNEY M MULHALL.

IT is interesting to note, that, with all the ups and downs of philatelic interest in the stamps of the countries comprising the Balkan States of Europe, the issues of Bulgaria have received scant attention from all collectors, notably the "Specialists" class.

A specialized collection of any note of this sturdy little country seems to be lacking, or if there is any it has been kept hidden from the knowledge of the philatelic press. Outside of an article here and there in the continental papers, the only reference or hand book on this country seems to be W. H. Poole's "Bulgaria", reprinted from the London West End Philatelist. While Mr. Poole has given a comprehensive survey of the general issues he evidently admits that his information on many points is not what he would like it to be.

Although Bulgaria did not commence issuing stamps until 1879 it is difficult to procure the earlier issues in anything but single copies or pairs, especially unused. All the issues are well printed and evenly colored, perhaps remarkably so considering the fact that they are mostly bi-colored, the background in one color and the inscription and remainder in another. This fondness for two color printing crops out all through the issues, continuing up to the present Prince Boris set now in use, and it makes a display of the unused stamps a very bright color ehibition.

Although such a large per cent. of the issues were in the double printing and coloring there have been comparitively few errors of note, and these were issued in large enough quantities to allow of a reasonable number being in circulation and the consequence of fairly low prices. With the exception of the 5 stott error of 1882, which is a fairly scarce stamp, the rest of the issues are within reach of all collectors, and it would pay to take up this country in a special line, and it would be without excessive cost.

MEXICO will issue a new set of stamps to commemorate the First Centennial of the Mexican Independence. The stamps will be the same values as the current issues, in the same colours with portraits of the heroes of the Independence and some (the 50c, $1 and $5 stamp) with views of battlefields of the independence war.

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Coins and Stamps

THE change in the coinage and the postage stamps imposed upon monarchical countries by the occasional change in sovereigns, says the Philadelphia Ledger, affords an opportunity for the revision of these important symbols of government activity which ought to be welcomed. Perhaps the revision is not always attended by an advance in artistic design. The criticisms of some features of the alteration is for the worse, but there is this advantage in the frequent change that bad designs have a smaller chance of permanency and there is always the hope of something better the next time. An Australian associate of the Royal Academy, Bertram Mackennal, has been commissioned to design models for the coinage of George V., and the artistic folk of the United Kingdom are looking for new coins that will be worthy of the nation. A few of the new Georgian stamps which have already reached this country are not reassuring, but it would be unfair to judge the new series on so slight a sample. It is understood that the new King is an enthusiastic philatelist, but whether this fact will have any effect upon the artistic qualities of the stamps which are to bear his effigy is by no means assured.

Postmarked Issues

WE are pleased to note that recently there has been quite a demand for stamps whidh clearly show a dated postmark says the "Philatelic Journal of Great Britain."

Years ago, when the science of Philately was in its infancy, any used stamp, provided that the cancellation did not entirely obliterate the design, was considered good enough to be mounted in a collection ; this transitory period was followed by one when more attention was paid to less heavy postmarks, with the result that the general appearance of the collection was greatly improved. Now, we have reached the time when a great number of collectors greatly prefer stamps with dated postmarks, a usually possible achievement as far as recent and current issues are concerned. Many of the old stamps are also procurable, and it is in regard to these old issuse that the value of a clearly legible postmark is often of supreme importance. The classification of Colonial stamps, notably Australians, has only been arrived at by the extensive study of stamps on entires–or single dated copies, while in many instances it is by the date alone that the collector is able to distinguish between one or more printings of various issues.

Continued from page 73

some two-penny's and a few of the embossed stamps.

About 1860 Mr. Trant showed his affection for stamps in a somewhat faeakish fashion. One of the merchants above mentioned sent him several sackfulls of old envelopes. Young Trant found the stamps of no interest or (then) value, so he utilised them as wall paper of his bed room. Mr. Trant says he always regretted this as when his parents changed their residence he had to leave the stamps behind.

During his brilliant career Mr. Trant has had a wide and interesting experience in the fields of journalism and politics. Born and educated in Leeds, England, he began his journalistic career as a reporter on the Yorkshire Post. In 1869 he went to London and became reporter on the Metropolitan Press. Mr. Trant, now began to take an interest in politics. On the downfall of Napoleon, in 1871, he was a delegate from the British proletariat to the new French republic. He escaped from Paris after it was invested with the German troops, and while bearing the manifesto from the French Government to the people of England, was arrested as a spy, but on discovery of his mission was released, and arrived safely in London. Mr. Trant, however, immediately returned to the seat of war as a special correspondent. In this connection he was once arrested, imprisoned, sentenced to death, and had a narrow escape. In 1874 he refused a seat in the House of Commons, and accepted a position as special correspondent for the Times of India, (Bombay). While in India he accompanied the Prince of Wales on his tour, and was present in Delhi at the proclamation of the Queen as Empress of India. Returning to England in 1879, he became letter and leader writer from the press galleries of the House of Parliament. Shortly afterwords he was seut on press mission to France, Spain, Algeria, Morocco, the United States and Mexico. In 1889, Mr. Trant moved with his family to the Canadian North West, settling in Assiniboia. Since coming to Canada Mr. Trant has refused to stand for election to the Dominion House, but has frequently contributed articles to the press both in Canada and of England.

"I shall endeavor to do all in my power to assist this most worthy project. The Canadian Philatelist." R. F. Wrigly, Vancouver, B. C.

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